

Remarks

In reviewing the claims allowed in the present application, Applicants noticed several errors that they had not previously appreciated. Specifically, claims 22 and 30 were missing a period at the end as well as the article "a."

In addition, Applicants noticed a problem with respect to claims 27 and 35 and, in particular, with respect to the Examiner's amendment of these claims noted in the Notice of Allowability. The amendment results in all of the genes recited in these claims being referred to as from "*E. coli*." However, two of the genes disclosed in the specification, the *pyc* gene and the *thrE* gene, were actually from *C. glutamicum*. This can be seen on page 15 of the specification, lines 1-2 and 11-12.

The amendments do not add new matter to the application, broaden the scope of claims or result in claims requiring further review by the Examiner. Applicants therefore respectfully request that they be entered

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone call may help to expedite the handling of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (240) 864-0915.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 14, 2007
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